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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)  
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

## ***Chad – Complex Emergency***

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

February 27, 2009

*Note: The last situation report was dated October 8, 2008.*

### **BACKGROUND**

Widespread conflict, displacement, and limited resources have contributed to a complex emergency in eastern Chad. Since the end of 2005, inter-ethnic conflict, fighting between Government of Chad (GOC) forces and armed opposition groups, and cross-border raids from Sudanese militias based in neighboring Darfur have intensified. As a result, more than 167,000 Chadians are internally displaced, resulting in an increased need for humanitarian services.

Displacement within Chad has occurred in the context of an existing humanitarian emergency fueled by the migration of more than 250,000 Sudanese into the eastern region of Chad since the start of the Darfur complex emergency in 2003. An estimated 308,000 refugees from Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR) reside in camps in eastern and southern Chad, taxing limited local resources. In addition to affecting internally displaced and refugee populations, the conflict continues to impact communities that host internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, encroaching on agriculture, livestock rearing, and other livelihood activities.

On October 1, 2008, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Robert E. Gribbin redeclared a disaster in Chad due to ongoing insecurity and humanitarian needs. In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided approximately \$186 million for programming in refugee protection and assistance; psychosocial services; agriculture and food security; emergency food assistance; health; nutrition; and water, sanitation, and hygiene. Since FY 2004, the USG has provided more than \$472 million in humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad.

<b>NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</b>		<b>SOURCE</b>
<b>IDPs in Eastern Chad</b>	167,000	OCHA <sup>1</sup> – January 2009
<b>Sudanese Refugees in Chad</b>	250,000	UNHCR <sup>2</sup> – February 2009
<b>CAR Refugees in Chad</b>	58,000	UNHCR – February 2009
<b>Affected Host Population</b>	700,000	OCHA – June 2008

### **HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE (FY 2008 AND FY 2009)**

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Eastern Chad.....	<b>\$7,683,041</b>
USAID/FFP <sup>3</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....	<b>\$121,360,700</b>
State/PRM <sup>4</sup> Assistance to Eastern Chad .....	<b>\$56,973,982</b>
<b>Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Eastern Chad.....</b>	<b>\$186,017,723</b>

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

In late 2008 and early 2009, tensions along the Chad–Sudan border have continued, exacerbating the already insecure operating environment for relief agencies and resulting in frequent suspension of humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian operations remain restricted due to escalating attacks on aid organizations and rising tensions among IDPs, refugees, and the Chadian host population, resulting from competition over scarce resources. Local residents in eastern Chad continue to experience violence, including armed attacks by men in civilian and military clothes and sexual and other forms

of violence against women. In addition, Chad experienced an influx of refugees fleeing conflict in CAR in early February.

From January 26 to January 31, a joint delegation from the USG and the European Commission (EC) traveled to Chad to assess the humanitarian response. USG participants included officials from USAID/OFDA and State/PRM. The delegation traveled to N’djamena, Abéché, Bahai, Iriba, Goz Beïda, and Koukou to examine issues of coordination, humanitarian reform, the U.N.

<sup>1</sup> U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

<sup>2</sup> U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<sup>3</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

cluster system, civil-military relations, early recovery, security, and protection. The team met with a range of officials from the Chadian Government, U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international organizations, as well as refugees and IDPs. Despite ongoing insecurity and displacement, approximately 60 U.N. agencies, NGOs, and international organizations operating in Chad continue to provide life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations.

### ***Security and Humanitarian Access***

Insecurity, including frequent carjacking and banditry, continues to impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad. According to the U.N. Security Council, between November 2008 and January 2009, Chadian National Armed Forces and armed opposition groups strengthened positions on respective sides of the Chad–Sudan border in anticipation of possible attacks. Tensions between armed groups along the border zone have limited humanitarian access to program sites.

During 2008, the U.N. reported more than 160 attacks on humanitarian workers in eastern Chad, including four deaths. According to OCHA, relief agencies are responding to the insecurity by reducing staff presence and limiting staff travel, especially after dark. Aid agencies are also taking steps to prevent relief vehicles and staff from being targets of asset-motivated violence and banditry.

In some areas of eastern Chad, insecurity has resulted in suspension of humanitarian services. In November 2008, aid agencies suspended humanitarian services in Dogdoré, 30 km west of Darfur, Sudan, due to insecurity and increased banditry. According to the U.N., the Dogdoré area is home to approximately 4,000 local residents, as well as an estimated 28,000 IDPs. In December 2008, OCHA reported steadily worsening access to water, health services, and nutrition services in Dogdoré. In late December 2008, the GOC deployed the National and Nomadic Guard of Chad and gendarmerie forces to the area to provide additional security support. Although limited humanitarian services have resumed, security remains a concern.

In addition, tensions among IDPs, refugees, and host populations continue to affect the provision of humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas where the three groups live in close proximity, taxing scarce resources. Increasing tensions have also resulted in additional security threats to relief workers. On October 6, 2008, a group of women in Am Nabak refugee camp, Wadi Fira Region, forcibly entered the area where UNHCR staff conducted refugee verification exercises. The incident resulted in violent attacks against humanitarian staff. Although the exact cause of the incident remains unknown, humanitarian staff note that violence against relief workers may have risen out of fears that UNHCR would suspend assistance if verification exercises determined that some individuals in

the camp were not refugees. Following a January 2009 assessment of the situation by UNHCR and the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), humanitarian staff returned to the camp and resumed assistance.

On August 14, the GOC and the U.N. Mission in CAR and Chad (MINURCAT) signed a memorandum of understanding establishing the Détachement Intégre de Sécurité (DIS), a unit comprising members of the Chadian police and gendarmes responsible for the protection of refugees and IDPs in eastern Chad. On February 26, MINURCAT announced completion in training a total of 850 DIS officers and launched the official deployment of DIS. The newly-trained DIS elements are deployed in six stations in eastern Chad, including Abéché, Farchana, Goz Beïda, Guéréda, Iriba, and Bahai.

### ***IDPs and Refugees***

According to the U.N., from January 5 through February 16, more than 6,000 people fled into Chad from CAR to escape fighting between CAR government forces and opposition groups. The refugees arrived in Daha village, Salamat Region, approximately 1 km from the Chad–CAR border. An interagency team is currently conducting a needs assessment, and relief agencies are providing humanitarian assistance to the affected population; however, relief agencies are concerned that the area becomes virtually inaccessible during the rainy season, which begins in May. UNHCR is coordinating with the GOC to identify a safer location for refugees a greater distance from the border. USG field staff reported that relief agencies expect a continued influx of refugees in the coming weeks due to declining conditions in CAR.

According to a February 11 OCHA report on the humanitarian situation in Chad, relief agencies reported more than 461 incidents of aggression against IDPs in 2008. The most common incidents included arbitrary arrests, forced recruitment, destruction of agricultural fields, rapes or assaults with intent to commit rape, female genital mutilation, threats, and extortion.

The aid community monitors and assists with IDP and refugee returns as needed. OCHA reported that approximately 3,000 IDPs participated in localized and spontaneous returns during 2008. Relief agencies remain uncertain whether the IDP returns represent seasonal migrations or permanent returns. Due to ongoing insecurity in both Darfur and CAR, aid agencies have not planned for organized refugee returns.

### ***Agriculture and Food Security***

An October 2008 USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network food security update indicated that harvest forecasts for the 2008/2009 season are at least two percent higher than the better-than-average 2007/2008 harvest. According to OCHA, an above-average 2008/2009 harvest, combined with continued food aid to refugees and IDPs, may ensure adequate food

availability in the eastern region through at least the first half of 2009. OCHA noted that improved food availability may facilitate resource sharing among IDPs, refugees, and host populations, thereby minimizing tensions.

USAID/OFDA focused FY 2008 programming on agriculture and food security in eastern Chad, after a comprehensive food security and vulnerability analysis performed by WFP in December 2007 indicated significant levels of food insecurity among the Chadian population. According to the analysis, only 20 percent of host community families produced sufficient grain to support nine months of consumption and only 40 percent could produce enough to support three months of consumption. WFP reported that aid agencies have responded by providing assistance to at least 150,000 beneficiaries in host communities through food-for-work programs and other targeted interventions.

In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$2 million to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), and the World Concern Development Organization (WCDO) to promote food security in eastern Chad through emergency supply of farming inputs to vulnerable households and other support to agricultural activities.

#### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

Despite ongoing insecurity and banditry, WFP continues to provide critical food assistance to affected populations in eastern Chad. As of February 24, WFP had completed general food distributions in all 12 refugee camps in eastern Chad, providing 252,000 Sudanese refugees with 4,260 metric tons (MT) of food commodities. USAID/FFP-donated commodities transported via the newly opened corridor through Libya augmented WFP stocks in Chad. Two convoys from Al Khufra town and Benghazi city in Libya, delivering 1,700 MT and 962 MT of food, respectively, arrived in Abéché, capital of Ouddaï Region in eastern Chad on February 18. Two additional convoys transporting 2,380 MT of food are expected to arrive in Abéché by mid-March.

Based on findings from the WFP-led emergency food security assessment conducted in October 2008, WFP food distributions to IDPs in eastern Chad are scheduled

to begin in March 2009. Based on the WFP 2009 IDP food assistance strategy, WFP plans to distribute 90-day general food rations from March to May and 120-day seed protection rations from June to September. In addition, WFP recently distributed 64 MT of food commodities to 5,800 CAR refugees in Salamat Region, southeastern Chad. Assistance provided to refugees in Salamat Region is designed to address beneficiaries' food needs for 20 days with full rations of 2,100 kilocalories per person per day. An additional 30-day food distribution is planned for March.

#### ***Health***

According to the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), a measles outbreak in eastern Chad began in early October 2008. In total, WHO received reports of 587 cases between October 1, 2008, and February 9, 2009, including 435 in Abéché. In response WHO supported the Chad Ministry of Health and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)-Switzerland for a large-scale measles and polio vaccination campaign. The campaign partners vaccinated more than 15,500 children under five years of age against polio and more than 42,000 children under the age of under 15 years of age against measles. The campaign continues in Abéché District.

The U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) recently conducted a large-scale vaccination campaign in Daba village in Salamat, the region recently affected by an influx of refugees from CAR. According to a February 9 MSF assessment, malaria, respiratory infections, and diarrhea are the most frequently observed conditions at the Daba health center in Salamat Region.

In FY 2008 and FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has supported health programs in eastern Chad through grants to the NGOs International Medical Corps (IMC) and the MENTOR Initiative, totaling \$1.25 million.

#### ***Nutrition***

In February, a joint U.N. needs assessment of refugees from CAR in Dada, Salamat Region, indicated a global acute malnutrition rate of 11 percent and 0.7 percent severe acute malnutrition among children of 6-59 months of age. On February 23, WHO reported that MSF plans to manage malnutrition identified through the needs assessment.

<b>FY 2009 EASTERN CHAD</b>			
<b><i>Implementing Partner</i></b>	<b><i>Activity</i></b>	<b><i>Location</i></b>	<b><i>Amount</i></b>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
USAID	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$5,409
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$116,125
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$621,534</b>
<b>FY 2009 USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			

WFP	45,340 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$64,105,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$64,105,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$8,850,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$8,850,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009</b>			<b>\$64,726,534</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009</b>			<b>\$73,576,534</b>
<b>FY 2008 EASTERN CHAD</b>			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ACF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Dar Sila	\$500,000
Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Dar Sila	\$481,980
Air Serv International (ASI)	Humanitarian Air Services	Dar Sila	\$729,975
CRS	Agriculture and Food Security	Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira	\$400,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$522,283
IMC	Health	Ouaddaï, Wadi Fira	\$950,000
Mentor	Health	Dar Sila, Salamat, Ouaddaï	\$500,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Eastern Chad	\$850,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Humanitarian Air Service	Eastern Chad	\$300,000
UNICEF	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
USAID Stockpile	Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$78,900
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$188,879
WCDO	Agriculture and Food Security	Dar Sila	\$809,490
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$7,061,507</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>			
WFP	46,960 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$57,255,700
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$57,255,700</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE<sup>3</sup></b>			
ASI	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$1,898,324
Africare	Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$700,000
CARE	Education	Eastern Chad	\$603,103
Christian Children's Fund	Psychosocial, Protection	Eastern Chad	\$399,999
CRS	Community Services; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$517,696
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	Psychosocial Services	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
International Committee of the Red Cross	Protection and Assistance to Conflict Victims	Eastern Chad	\$4,600,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies/Chad (IFRC/Chad)	Health; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$1,100,000
IMC	Health	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
International Relief and Development (IRD)	Livelihoods, Animal Husbandry	Eastern Chad	\$75,000

InterNews	Humanitarian Information Service	Eastern Chad	\$800,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Multi-sectoral Refugee Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$2,350,000
MINURCAT	Protection and Police Activities	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
Refugee Education Trust	Secondary and Vocational Education	Eastern Chad	\$850,000
UNHAS	Humanitarian Air Services	Eastern Chad	\$2,100,000
UNHCR	IDP Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$3,480,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$21,700,000
UNICEF	Health, Education, and Child Protection	Eastern Chad	\$2,000,000
WCDO	Environmental Conservation	Eastern Chad	\$449,860
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$48,123,982</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2008</b>			<b>\$64,317,207</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2008</b>			<b>\$112,441,189</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2008 AND FY 2009</b>			<b>\$186,017,723</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of February 27, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance

<sup>3</sup> State/PRM funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of February 27, 2009